A GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY
OF THE
State of South-Carolina.

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1778. [No. 2096.]

To their Excellencies the Earl of CARLISLE, WILLIAM EDEN, *and* GEORGE JOHNSTONE, Esqrs.

AS I have but a few moments that I can, in conscience, appropriate to a correspondence with your Excellencies, I trust this circumstance will, with you, excuse the abrupt manner in which I introduce myself, and my reflections, to your attention.

Your letter of the 9th instant to congress, your commission, and the acts of the British parliament upon which they are grounded, are the fashionable subjects of curious enquiry, in how many points of view they are fallacious and incompetent to the object of your ostensible negotiation. Although congress cannot condescend minutely to animadvert upon your propositions, as your Excellencies are empowered to hear individuals, I flatter myself, so anxious is your inclination to restore peace, that you will for a moment honour me with your attention.

In your letter of the 9th instant, Governor Johnstone signed this position, "Notwithstanding the pretended date or present form of the French offers to North America, yet it is notorious that these were made in consequence of the plans of accommodation previously concerted in Great Britain, and with a view to prevent our reconciliation, and to prolong this destructive war."

On the 5th of February, in the house of commons, Governor Johnstone also signed this position, "I have had a hint, and have good reason to believe, a proposition will be made to parliament in four or five days, by administration, that may be a ground of reunion, I really do not know the particulars, nevertheless, as I learn some preliminaries have lately gone from France, I think it cannot be deemed unfriendly to either country, to give you notice of this intended proposition, that you may in prudence do nothing hastily with a foreign power."

The "preliminaries" mentioned by Governor Johnstone, as "lately gone from France," were at that moment at sea, with Mr. Simeon Deane, and had been so some weeks; they were to the following purpose: "That his most Christian Majesty was determined to acknowledge our Independence, and "make a treaty with us of amity and commerce," &c. &c. [as inserted under the York Town head, in this Gazette, of the 24th of June.]

These preliminaries were, by Monsr. Girard, in the name of his most Christian Majesty, announced to the American commissioners at Paris on the 16th day of December last. And in consequence of them, the treaty of Paris, between America and France, was actually signed on the 6th of February 1778. It is notorious, that it was on the 19th of February, that Lord North introduced his propositions to parliament for a reunion with America.

From this state of facts, two points result. First, that the two positions signed by Governor Johnstone militate against each other in direct terms. Secondly, that so far were "the French offers" from being "made in consequence of the plans of accommodation "being concerted in Great-Britain," *that the latter were made in consequence only of the former*; for the French offers were made on the 16th day of December. Governor Johnstone (connected with administration) on the 5th of February expressly says, he was then ignorant of any particulars of a plan of accommodation. On the 6th of February the French offers were compleated by a treaty; and it was not till the 19th of February, that any plan of accommodation was communicated to the British parliament. Your Excellencies, however, do not scruple, even in your first address to congress, to assert a position, the contrary to which is known to be the fact. I will not charge you with a designed falsity: The people will use their discretion. At any rate, this conduct on your part, warns them to be upon their guard against you.

Having thus vindicated the honour of our good and great ally the King of France, permit me to touch upon your propositions to congress.

Your Excellencies offer us a seat for our representatives in your parliament. Happily for us, we are too well acquainted with the insignificancy of the Scotch representatives there, to expect that American representatives can, in the same place, possess any importance; or that America can derive any advantage from such a representation.

As an alternative, you propose to send agents to our Assemblies. But as we know they would be spies upon us, and agents to purchase our voices, we will have no such characters among us.

You propose to concur in measures to discharge the debts of America. By this, as our subjection is implied, so are restrictions of some sort upon our trade; of necessity, so is a *diminution of our ability* to discharge our own debts. We know you cannot discharge the debts of your own nation, we therefore cannot expect that you will, or even desire that you should, discharge any part of ours. We are willing and able to discharge our debts, without your concurrence or aid. Your offer therefore wears the appearance of being officious and idle.

You propose to extend every freedom to trade, that our respective interests can require. Do we not know, that you have a natural inclination to monopolize trade? Do we not know, that your and our interest in the point of trade, is in direct opposition? It is your interest, that our trade should be limitted—it is ours, that it should be unlimitted—we therefore differ *toto cœlo*.

You propose a cessation of hostilities. Withdraw your forces by land, and hostilities there are instantly ended; you need not be anxious for a cessation at sea; on that element we have every thing to fear from you. If you mean fair, why then do you delay to do that which you seem to desire, and which that it be done rests entirely with yourselves?

Such are your principal offers in detail. *Of how little value are they to us!*

But you offer us every thing short of independence. If you are serious, *of how little value must such a connection with us be to you!*—Will your Excellencies condescend with me, to view Great Britain and America under one sovereign? The sovereignty in Britain; America possessed of powers of government but short of Independence.—

America, formed for empire, must naturally arrive at it; having tasted of it, she will ever be anxious to possess it again; having by arms acquired a power, but short of independence, she will increase in reputation and ability to become independent, and this will increase her desire to be so; her former success will possess her with confidence and hope; experience will make her ever suspicious of the intentions of Britain: Hence, being in possession of powers, only short of independent, she will always be prepared to assert her rights, especially having in mind her naked condition at the sudden commencement of the present war. In such a formidable situation, design, accident, suspicion, or the breath of displeasure on either side, must, in a few years, break the cobweb by which you offer to hold her under the dominion of Britain. And is the acquiring dominion to be held by such a tie worth another campaign! Can it be worth the pursuit of a man of common honesty and common sense?

But supposing your offers to be, *what they are not*, of sterling value to America: How inadequate are your powers to the purpose of accommodation! The great Lord Abingdon puts this matter in the clearest point of view; in his most elegant protest on this subject, he says—"Although the Commissioners and the congress be agreed, such agreement is of no effect till confirmed by parliament; which is giving such advantage to parliament, by knowing what congress will do, and is of such disadvantage to congress, by not knowing what parliament will confirm, that the very inequality of the conditions will put a stop to accommodation." If America enters into terms with you, see what might be the consequence.—Your Excellencies must allow, *that it is our duty to avoid them*.

We have made a solemn treaty with France—the Object is, the establishment of our Independence. If we treat with you upon the footing of Dependence, we at once break our faith with France, for ever, lose all credit with foreign nations, and are *ipso facto*, cut off even from the hope of succour. In this situation, "you will absolutely hold us at mercy." Your King, Ministers and Parliament may refuse to ratify your engagements, for they have the power to do so. Governor Johnstone has long and ably pleaded the cause of America. Is he now come to our shore, to invite us to surrender to the justice and mercy of our most unjust and vengeful enemies! Enemies, who have for a long course of years treated us with the basest deceptions, and calumniated us throughout Europe: Enemies, who have starved to death our countrymen taken prisoners, loading them while alive and in their power with every insult: Enemies who gave stretch to their savage allies, to murder our old and unarmed farmers, and their helpless women and children: Enemies, who have plundered our country, burned our towns, and armed son against father, servant against master, and brother against brother, in order to subject us: Enemies, who have moved even hell itself, to accomplish their purpose of blood, ruin and tyranny: Enemies, utterly abandoned to corruption, destitute of public virtue, deaf to the voice of justice, and dead to the feelings of humanity!—Can it possibly be expected that such enemies, after the expence of so many millions; the loss of so much of their own blood; the disgraces their arms have sustained; the insults to which they have been obliged to submit from foreign nations, in pursuit of our destruction; the impending ruin under which they have been driven by our opposition; I say, can it possibly be expected, that when such enemies, so provoked, shall find us lying at their mercy, they will ratify your Excellencies terms, but short of Independence, and be content to hold dominion over us by so slender a tie as a cobweb! *Timeo Danaos, et dona ferentes.*

America is independent, *de facto et de jure*. She will maintain her station at the expence of the last drop of her blood. It is in vain to solicit what your arms, when most powerful, were not able to compel. You are no longer in that situation. America is more competent to the contest than ever she has been. Our resolution is fixed; nor do we fear "the horrors and devastations of war," with which, in the conclusion of your letter, you threaten us. France has acknowledged our independence; the great powers of Europe smile upon us; we rely upon our own virtue and the favour of heaven. If we continue firm, we shall continue independent. Farewell.

W. H. D.

York-Town, June 17, 1778.

CHARLES-TOWN, July 22.

THE forbearing spirit of the Americans seems at length to be roused, and the present campaign bids fair to rid us, *a-la-mode de Burgoyne*, of the power of the British forces under Sir Henry Clinton. After 3000 men, supposed sick and invalids, together with the women and children, stores, baggage, &c. and a number of traitors to their country, had been sent on board of transports for New-York, and they had fallen down the river below the vaisseaux de frize, the main body of Sir Henry's army evacuated Philadelphia, in the night of the 17th of June, or rather before day on the 18th, and crossed the Delaware at Cooper's ferry into the Jerseys; immediately after which, a detachment of our troops entered the city, and on the 19th General Arnold took the command there. Preparations having been made so early as the middle of May strongly indicating an intended evacuation, and these being from time to time discontinued, till about a week before it actually took place, 'twas, till then, suspected to be only a Manoeuvre to deceive General Washington, and induce him to divide or draw off his force, so that the British troops might have the country more open to them, and gain more elbow-room: But it being clearly perceived, when the British Commissioners arrived, that Sir Henry really meant to abandon Philadelphia (the glorious acquisition of a whole campaign! by Sir William Howe, Knight of the Bath) General Maxwell's Brigade was marched, and posted to advantage in the Jerseys; General Dickenson also collected a large force of the spirited militia of that State; the roads were filled with incumbrances, and the bridges broke up, in the route it was most natural to suppose the enemy must take through the Jerseys, to South-Amboy or Staaten Island; and such other arrangements were made, that General Washington's army might follow the enemy in the following divisions, viz. 1st, Major General Lee's; 2d, Major General Mifflin's; 3d, the Marquis de la Fayette's; 4th, Baron de Kalb's; 5th Lord Sterling's. Accordingly, when it appeared certain, that the enemy were advancing into the Jerseys, General Washington's whole force was put in motion, and Generals Maxwell and Dickinson's corps were considerably augmented. The obstructions on the roads and the broken bridges had occasioned so great delays to the intended rapid progress of Sir Henry, that on the 20th he had not proceeded more than 15 miles, while General Washington had marched 40. By the last accounts, the enemy had reached Evesham, about 12 miles E. of Haddonfield, and 3 short of Mount Holly, where they were occupied in repairing a broken bridge. General Maxwell was posted upon the advantageous height of the Mount, and some skirmishing had already happened between his advanced parties, and those of the enemy, to the disadvantage of the latter. The greatest part of General Washington's main body had advanced as far as Corryel's Ferry, and the General himself, with the remainder, was only ten miles behind, resting his men. At the same time, General Gates received very considerable reinforcements, at Fish-kill in the State of New York, and was to act as occasion might require; and the enemy Indians in that quarter were soliciting for peace. Upon the whole, it was not probable, that the enemy would reach Amboy without interruption; and if General Washington should be so fortunate as to fall in with them, perhaps he may honourably *negotiate for America at the head of his army*.

The British Commissioners left Philadelphia at the same time that the enemy evacuated it, without receiving the answer of the Congress to their letter; but General Washington had sent it on.

General Prevost, the British Commander at Rhode-Island, continued to defolate and plunder every defenceless place in his power; and on the 31st of May intimated to General Sullivan, that as the American law made all persons from 16 to 63 years of age liable to bear arms, so he should capture as many such as he could catch, and consider them as exchangeable for British Soldiers.

The enemy in march thro' the Jerseys, it is said, does not exceed 11,000. The American continentals, in pursuit of them, are calculated at 13,000; and the militia that will probably share a part in the glories of this campaign, it is supposed will not be less than 10,000.

Last Friday a French ship from Marseilles, mounting 26 twelve and eight pounders, and well manned, arrived off our bar, with a very valuable cargo on board for this place. She left Marseilles the 9th of May, and brings advice, that the Toulon squadron, consisting of 22 ships of the line and 5 frigates, under the command of the Count d'Estaing, having on board between three and four thousand land forces, had sailed, from that port on the 18th of April, and it was generally believed proceeded for America.

Malcolm, M'Guire, and Johnson, 3 deserters from the 2d regiment of this State, taken on board the Tonyn's Revenge privateer from St. Augustine, having been tried, and received sentence of death, the first has been shot, and the two others reprieved.

The further proceeding in the expedition from Georgia into East-Florida is suspended; as there is little to fear from the incursions of the enemy in that quarter, since they have destroyed and abandoned Fort Tonyn on St. Mary's River, which they quitted so precipitately, as to leave all their baggage behind, hidden in different places, to fall into the hands of our troops.

Married.] The 29th inst. at St. Helena, Mr. John Dedier, to Mrs. Margaret Cook,—a very agreeable Lady with a handsome fortune.

BY a Vessel arrived at George Town, in a short Passage from Martinique, a Martinique Gazette of the 25th of June has been received, which contains the following Paragraphs, viz.

St. Pierre's MARTINIQUE, June 25.

THE King's frigate La Charmante, of 28 guns, commanded by M. Macnamara, left Brest the 21st of May, arrived at Fort Royal the 20th inst. and sailed the 22d for Hispaniola, to call by the way at Guadaloupe. The following extract of a letter will shew the state of affairs between our court and that of Great-Britain, when that ship left France.

Extract of a Letter from Brest, May 19.

"——— No declaration of war, Sir, has yet taken place; but our ministry pursue the same measures as if it had actually been published. Our naval armament, consisting of 28 ships of the line, completely equipped, is in the road; the officers are not permitted to come ashore, and the three regiments which are to serve as marines are embarked. Ten more are fitting out, with such expedition, that they may join the fleet in a month, if necessary. Admiral Keppel's fleet remains at Spithead, and consists of 31 ships of the line, including those that are destined for the Mediterranean, the West-Indies and other stations.—We are at present in the most promising situation. If the English have humbled us the last war; we have good grounds to believe, that we shall now have ample satisfaction. Our marine waits with impatience for an opportunity to distinguish itself, and the nation seems confident that it will. The Duke de Chartres is hourly expected here. And it is said the King, accompanied by his Ministers, is to review the fleet.—The Destination of the Count d'Estaing is no longer a mystery; he is gone to America, but the precise object of his commission is not known. M. Girard, minister plenipotentiary to the United States, is on board the Admiral's ship. This unexpected stroke has thrown the British court into fresh perplexities. They would send a squadron in pursuit of ours, but cannot, without leaving their coasts defenceless, which are strongly threatened. They are therefore continued to wait the event of an expedition which may restore to us 60 sail of merchantmen and 3000 sailors that have been taken from us. Their naval force in America, upon which they relied to put them into a condition of declaring war against us, will in all probability be scattered; the royal army there, by that means at the mercy of General Washington. And it would not be at all astonishing, if the success of such a project, should reduce the haughty English nation to receive terms from France, which would forever deprive her of the empire over the sea, and leave commerce free and common to all maritime powers.—Every thing seems to promise happiness to our nation: The pregnancy of our queen is confirmed, and is a sure presage of it ——In case of war, all our ports in America are to be open to all nations: This is a point determined, and I congratulate you thereon.—The speech which Count d'Estaing delivered to the officers under his command, was short, but energetic: Here you have it:—"The King has done me the honour, gentlemen, to entrust me with a commission of great importance: My head is to answer for its execution; but yours are to answer to me, for due obedience to orders. My signals shall be so distinct and clear, that it will be impossible to mistake them. You must give due attention to them."

By the ship which arrived here on the 29th from Bourdeaux, and left that port the 10th of May, we have no intelligence more interesting than is contained in the foregoing extract. Notwithstanding all the appearances of an approaching rupture, business has begun to return to its former settled footing; insurance, which on the first apprehensions of war, had risen to 25 per cent. has again fallen to 10 or 12 per cent. to the colonies; and nothing but the scarcity of sailors will lessen the number of ships sent out.——A letter from the minister to the commandant of Rochefort, dated the 23d April, has been stuck at the exchange, which proves that government is fixed in its principles; it is in these words, viz. The King having thought proper to alter the destination of the Junon and Courageuse Frigates, and Rossignol Corvette (which had been ordered to America) and to retain them to cruize on these coasts, his Majesty commands you, Sir, to give instructions to those three vessels, to protect all French merchantmen and vessels belonging to the United States, which they may meet with in their cruizes; to prevent any of either being taken or searched, even by opposing force; to seize all English privateers that fall in their way carry them into the next port, and there deliver them to the Admiralty, to be sequestered until his Majesty's further intentions respecting their fate shall be made known. The said frigates and Corvette to convoy all outward-bound French and American vessels 40 leagues clear of the land; and all like inward-bound vessels they may meet within the Cape, into the ports for which they are destined. With regard to frigates or other ships of war, belonging to the King of Great-Britain, which they may fall in with, you will recommend to the Captains to behave towards them with all possible propriety, politeness and prudence, observing nevertheless the respect due to the French flag. And should a case happen (which his Majesty cannot at present foresee) that the frigates should be obliged to come to blows, it is left to the discretion of the officers, to determine, according to the circumstances in which they shall find themselves, what they ought to do.

There are now actually upwards of 30 frigates at sea, cruizing solely for the protection of commerce.

The Boston Frigate of 30 guns, which carried Mr. Adams to France, on her passage, off the Western-Islands, took a ship from London for New-York, called the March, with a cargo on board insured at 70 000 l. sterling.

The Reader will be kind enough to make allowances for any incorrectness in the translation, it being a business to which the person who undertook it was not accustomed.

FRESH INTELLIGENCE.

A Pennsylvania Gazette, of June 27, is just received, which contains the following fresh intelligence,

From *London*, of March 28, that lord Stormont arrived there from Paris the day before; when officers were sent on board all French vessels in the river to stop their sailing; and orders sent to all the lord lieutenants to embody the militia of their respective counties immediately. That the Spanish ambassador had ordered all his moveables to be packed up, and held himself in readiness to embark at an hour's notice; that it was thought the Spanish ministry had acknowledged the independence of America; and reported, that letters of recall had been sent to lord Grantham at Madrid. That lord Chatham had had an offer to come into administration; and, by his advice, war would be declared against the united powers of France and Spain in one day. And that parliament had just granted a million and half to the king, to defray the extra expences of his land forces; 19,000 for augmenting them; and 7000 for repairing roads & bridges in Scotland.

From *Boston*, of June 11. That major-general Delancey, col. Robinson, the late mayor of Albany, and two other gentlemen of note, had sent out a flag to governor Clinton of the state of New-York, offering to deliver up all their paternal property in exchange for the protection of the states; but were answered, that the pleasure of Congress must be known, before they could be received to mercy.

From *Trenton*. That before the enemy abandoned Philadelphia, they burnt all the vessels on the stocks.

From *Philadelphia*, of June 24. That the enemy's army was at the Black Horse, 7 miles beyond Mount Holly, the night before. That they did not move more than 7 or 8 miles a day. That our army was at Princeton, and in advance at night on the 23d, moving on towards the enemy, with design of taking the first favourable opportunity to attack them. That near 400 deserters from the enemy had arrived at that place. That the rear of the enemy's fleet were the day before at Reedy Island; and two divisions had gone down the river to sea.

Letters from *York-Town*, of the 18th of June, contain this further intelligence. That on the 16th at Philadelphia, a platoon firing was heard, for two hours, on the Jersey side, supposed to be an engagement between the two armies. And that the desertions from the British army, since it had crossed the Delaware, then amounted to near 1500 men.

Fifty Pounds Reward.

WHereas a number of disorderly people, under pretence of being a patrol, came to the plantation of the subscriber, in Christ-Church parish, a short time ago, and did there commit divers trespasses, and not satisfied with robbing the orchard and garden, did break down fences and destroy what they could not carry away—among other articles they stole a keg of Spanish Brown.——In order to prevent the like mischief to my neighbours, and to make example of such plunderers, I hereby offer the Reward of Fifty Pounds, to any person who will give information of the parties concerned in the above robbery, to be paid on conviction of the offenders.

PLOWDEN WESTON.

Fifty Pounds Reward.

WHereas frequent practice is made of rolling off Barrels of Pitch, Tar and Turpentine from Prioleau's Wharf, and sometimes of knocking in the heads and wantonly wasting the contents. This is to give Notice, that the above reward will be given to any one who can convict a white person of such offence, and Twenty Pounds for the conviction of a negro. JOHN RICHARD TOLMAN.

Mr. Tolman requests those gentlemen who purchase any of the above articles, that they will always leave word at the scale-house when they remove them from the wharf.

For Sale by Private Contract,

A Pleasant and Healthy Plantation, containing 415 acres, in St. James's Parish, Goose Creek, about three miles from the Church, joining lands of Mr. William Withers and Mrs. Elizabeth Smith.——On the premises are a good dwelling-house of six rooms, and other other out buildings, very pleasantly situated upon high ground, in view of a bold navigable creek, with a convenient landing near the house; there is also a quantity of valuable pine timber, &c. and lately a brick-yard hath been erected thereon, the clay of which is allowed to be exceeding proper for either brick or tile. Any person inclinable to purchase, will be informed of the terms, by applying in Charles-Town, near the White-meeting, to

WILLIAM FAIR, or
RICHARD COLE.

To be Sold, at Public Vendue,

On the 5th of August 1778, at my room in Church-street, at 11 o'clock,

A Plantation, containing 293 acres of Land, on Little Pedee River, on the West side of said river, very little subject to freshes; it joins lands of Joseph Robinson and Christopher Smith, and to the E. on the said river; exceeding good for indico and provision, and is new planted by Mr. Bland Shaw.

JACOB VALK.

To be Sold,

On Thursday the 13th day of August, 1778, at my room, at 11 o'clock.

A Valuable lot in Tradd-street, distinguished in the Plat of Charles-Town, by the No. 191, containing in front 58 feet 8 inches, and in depth 143; on the premises is a brick house, designed as kitchens to two tenements that were intended to be built; and with a little improvement may make a tolerable good dwelling house, for the times. The purchaser may have four years credit, on giving good security and paying interest annually. JACOB VALK.

WAnted an Overseer. None but of good character and capacity need apply. JACOB VALK.

Brought to the Workhouse.

June 14, A Negro fellow of the Angola country, named Peter; he is about 18 years of age, 5 feet 2 inches and a half high, speaks broken English, and formerly belonged to Mr. Blankenhorn of this town.

June 17, A negro fellow, this country born, named Lymus; he is 5 feet, 5 inches high, 26 years of age, says his master's name is Isaac Maham, and lives at St. Stephen's.

July 6, A negro fellow this country born, named Primus; he is about 18 or 18 years of age, about 5 feet 3 inches high, and says Major M'Donald of St. Stephen's, is his Master.

July 7, A negro fellow of the Angola country, named Sam; he is 30 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches high, speaks broken English, and says his master's name is Thomas Bird, and lives in Virginia.

July 9, A negro boy, born in Georgia, named Peter; he is 13 years of age, 4 feet 8 inches high, says his master's name is Thomas Roche, and lives at Red-Hill.——A negro boy named Carolina, 5 feet two inches high, speaks good English, has an iron on each leg, and says his master's name is Nathaniel Adams, and lives at Ediso.

N. B. Oakum to be disposed of in any quantity.

JOHN GERLEY, Warden.

CHARLES-TOWN: Printed, at TIMOTHY and BODEN's Office, in the State-House, where Advertisements, &c. are received.